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### **King Statement on Eighth Anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Washington, D.C. (Friday, September 11, 2009)** – Today, U.S. Rep. Peter T. King (R-NY), Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, released the following statement on the eight-year anniversary of the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks against the United States:

“Today, all across America, we remember and mourn the nearly 3,000 innocent Americans killed eight years ago in the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. We remember and comfort the families of those killed on that day. We remember and thank the fearless men and women of our military as well as the law enforcement officers, firefighters and members of the intelligence community who have worked tirelessly for the past eight years to protect Americans from harm.

“As a result of the work of so many dedicated individuals, our Nation is safer today than it was in 2001 and has gone eight years without another attack. Even so, we must never forget the lessons of September 11<sup>th</sup>. We also must remain vigilant as the threat to America from al Qaeda and other radical extremists continues.

“As evidence, we need only consider recent events. Law enforcement officials have foiled plots to bomb the Brooklyn Bridge, Herald Square, and a Riverdale neighborhood synagogue in New York City. Authorities arrested Bryant Vinas, an American citizen from Long Island, who traveled to Pakistan to join al Qaeda. Federal investigators arrested seven men in North Carolina for plotting to engage in ‘jihad.’ A British court this week convicted three men for plotting to kill thousands by blowing up U.S.-bound airliners with liquid explosives in 2006.

“The safety and security of the American people must continue to be the top priority of our government. Congress must continue to work to ensure that the Department of Homeland Security, our military, the intelligence community, and State and local law enforcement have the tools they need to further secure our country from those radical extremists who intend to harm more Americans.”

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